



North Carolina's Executive Committee for Highway Safety

North Carolina
Department of Transportation

J. Kevin Lacy, P.E.



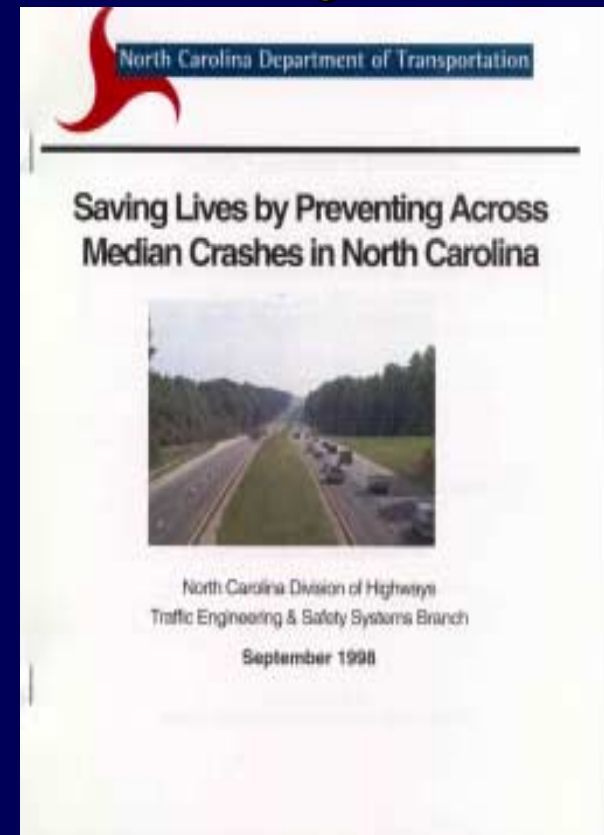
North Carolina is a Leader in Highway Safety



North Carolina Highway Safety Initiatives

■ Median Barrier

- Programmed approximately 1,000 miles through 2003
- Installed over 700 miles to date
- Saving lives by preventing Across Median Crashes



North Carolina Highway Safety Initiatives

■ Sealed Corridor Initiative

- Washington, DC-Raleigh-Charlotte rail corridor identified as one of five nationally designated future high-speed rail corridors
- In essence, we are "sealing" the corridor by protecting every public crossing with
 - video monitoring
 - median separators,
 - longer gate arms,
 - four-quadrant gates
 - innovative signage



North Carolina Highway Safety Initiatives

■ Click It or Ticket

- Increased Seat Belt Usage to nearly 85%
- Since inception in 1993, reduced fatalities and serious injuries by 14%



■ Booze It & Lose It

- Campaign targeting drunken drivers
- 22% decrease in alcohol related fatalities



North Carolina Highway Safety Initiatives

Many of North Carolina Department of Transportation's safety programs serve as models for the rest of the Nation

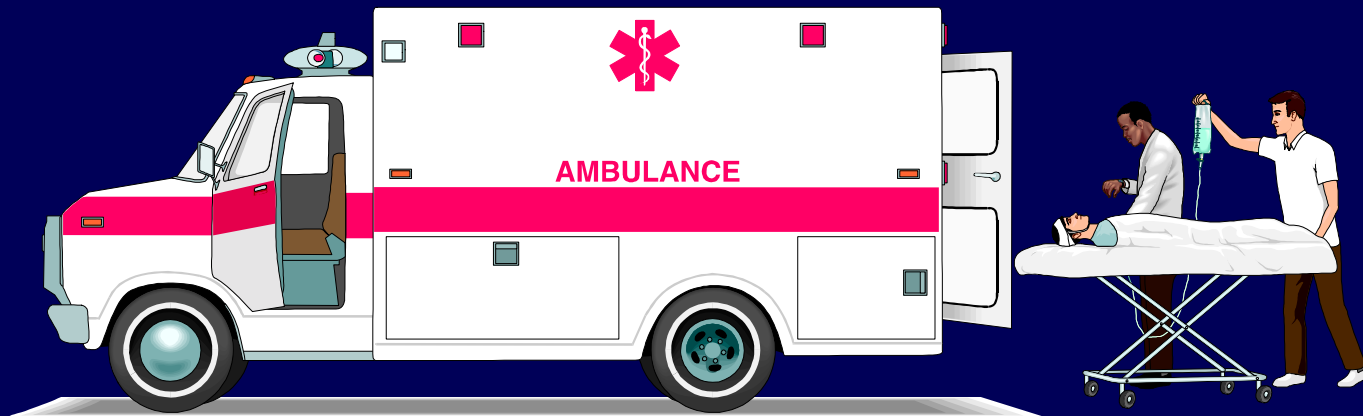


However.....

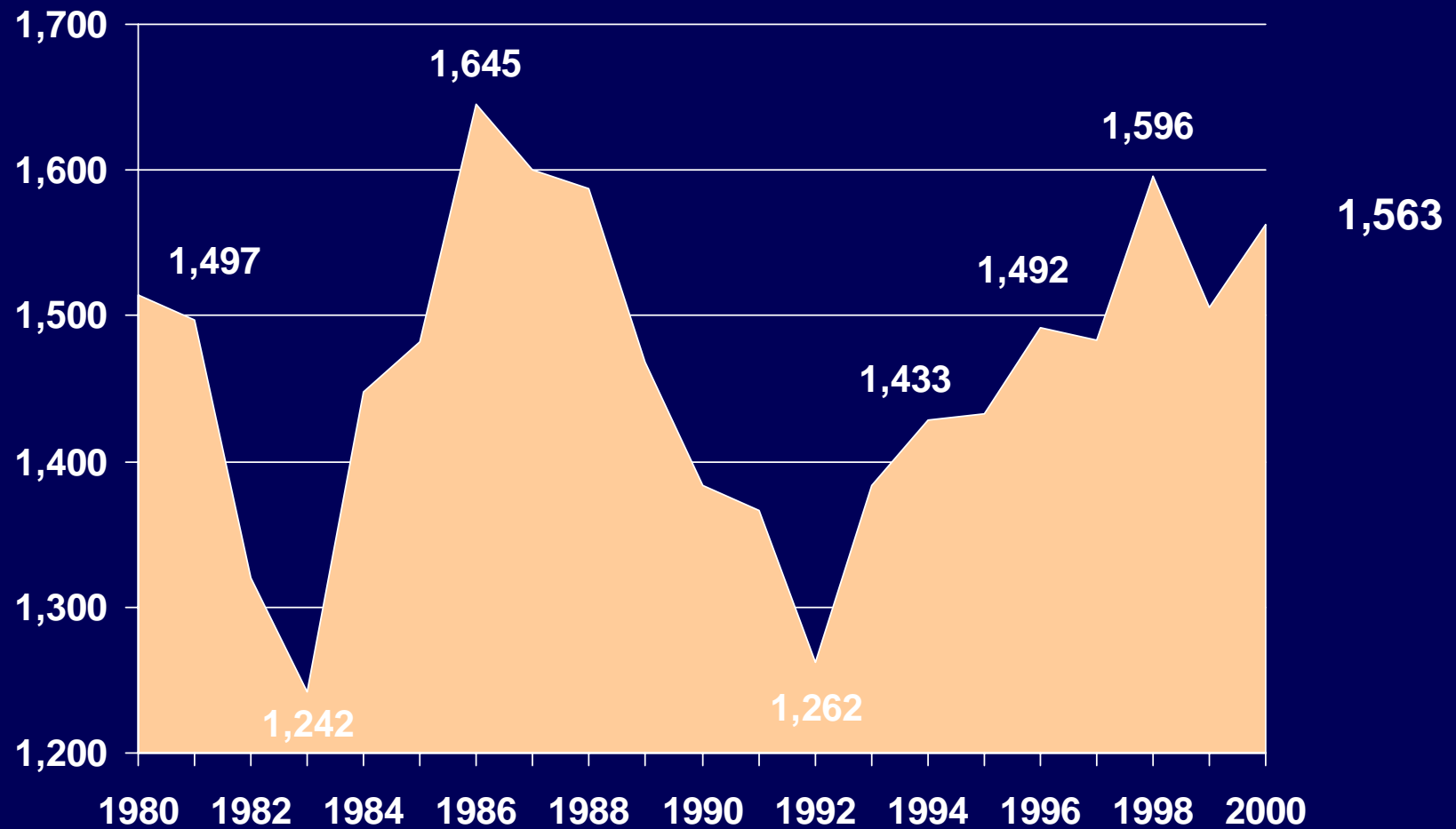


North Carolina Crash Picture

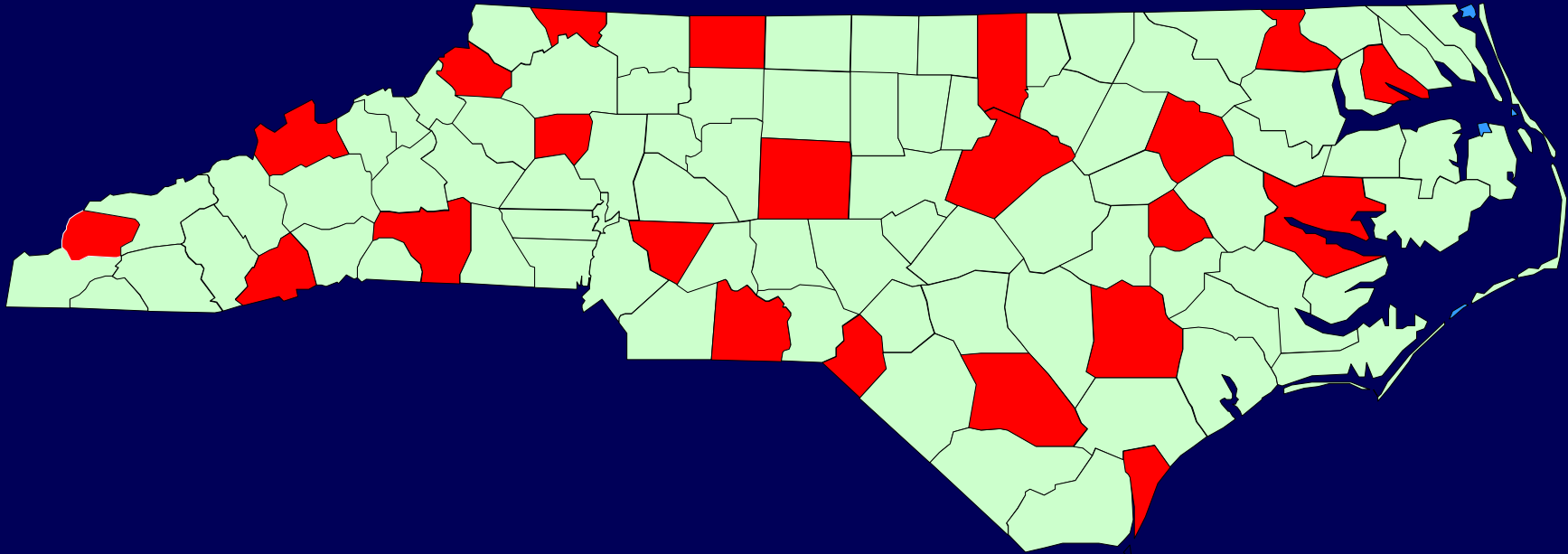
- In 2001
 - Over 217,794 reported traffic crashes
 - Resulted in 1,530 fatalities
 - Over 134,122 injuries



N. C. Total Fatalities



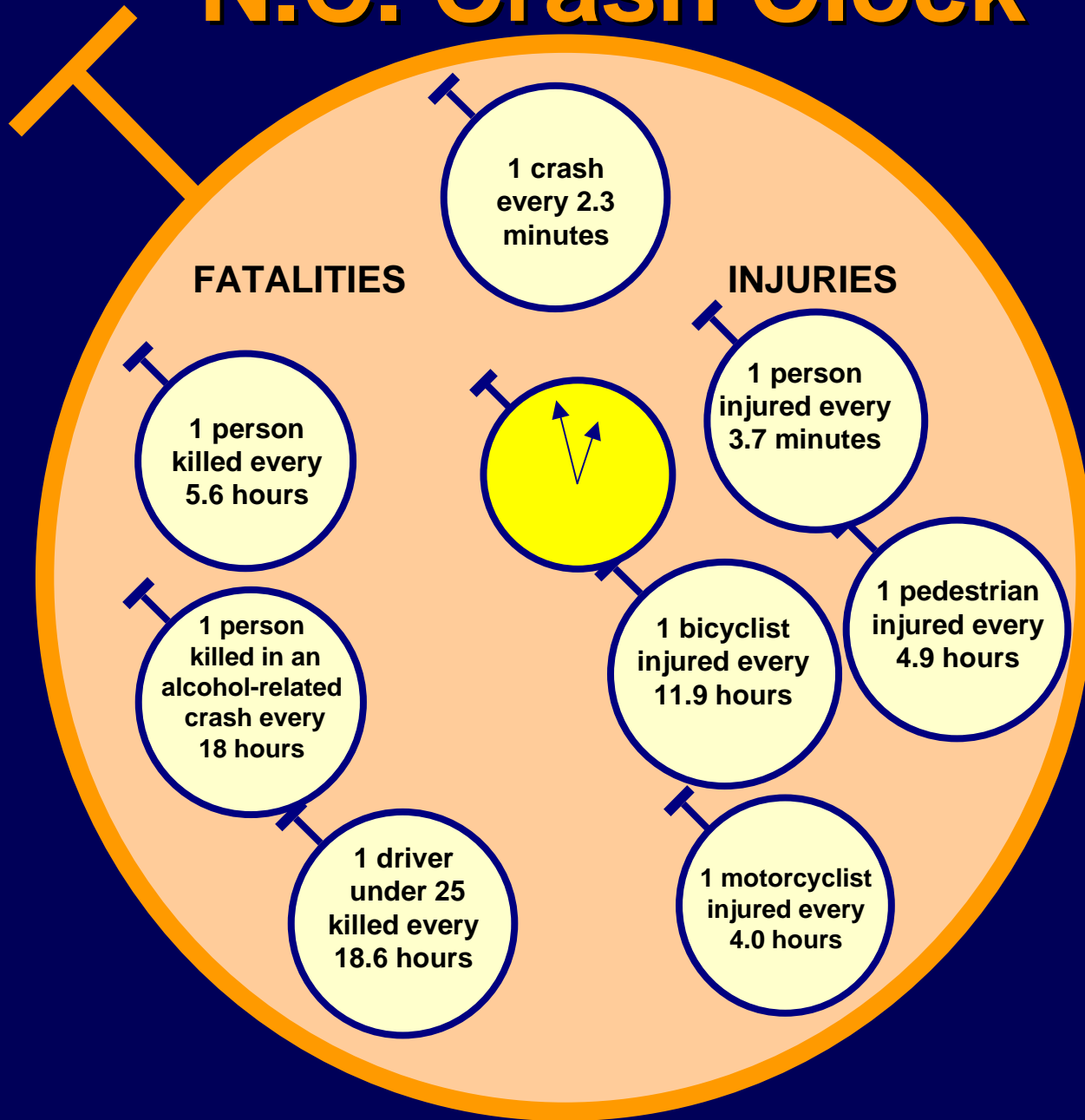
N.C. Trend



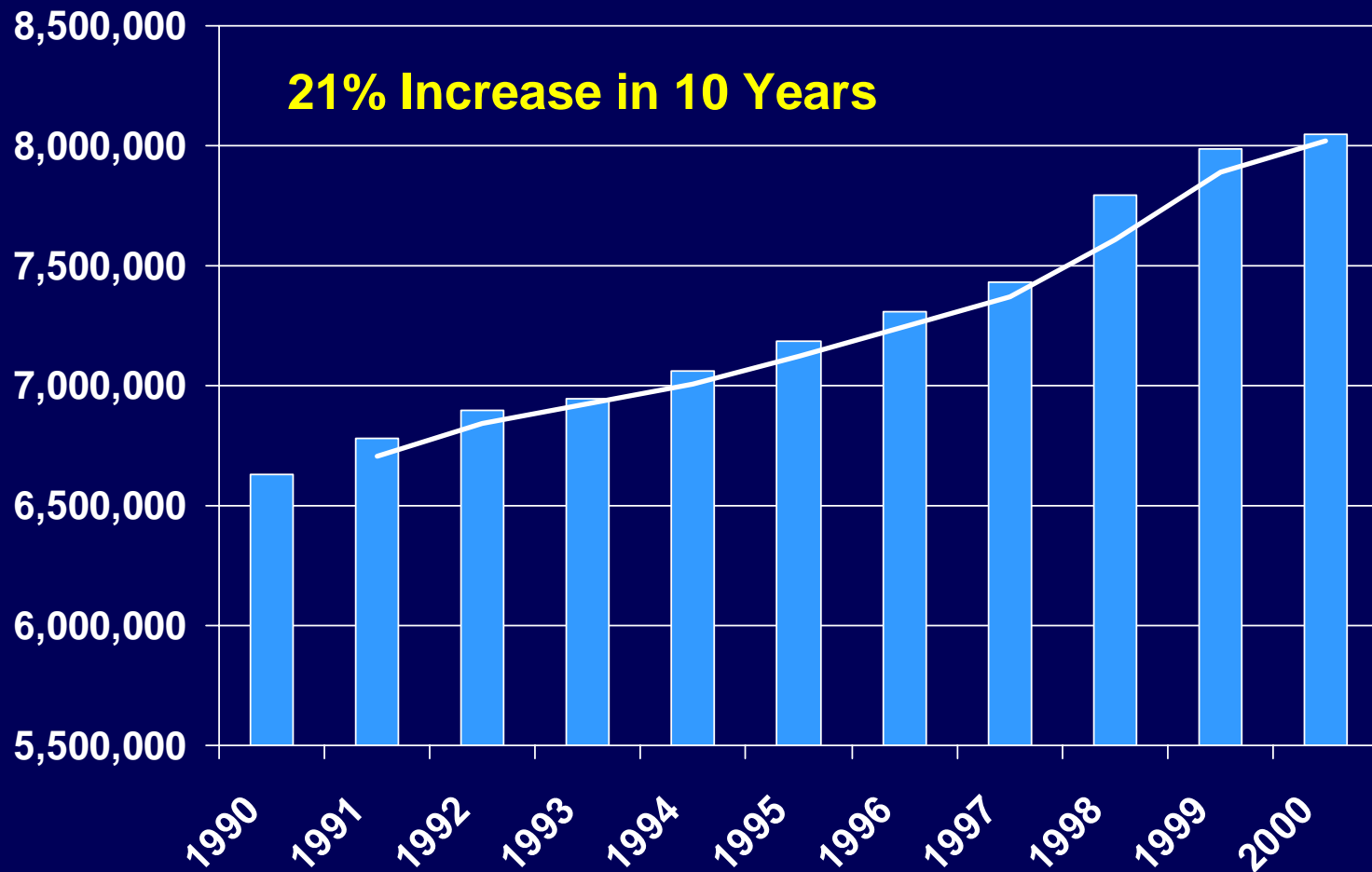
If current trends continue over the next ten (10) years, the number of motorists on North Carolina Highways that will be killed or injured in a motor vehicle crash will be equivalent to every man, woman and child in the **22** counties indicated in red on the above map.



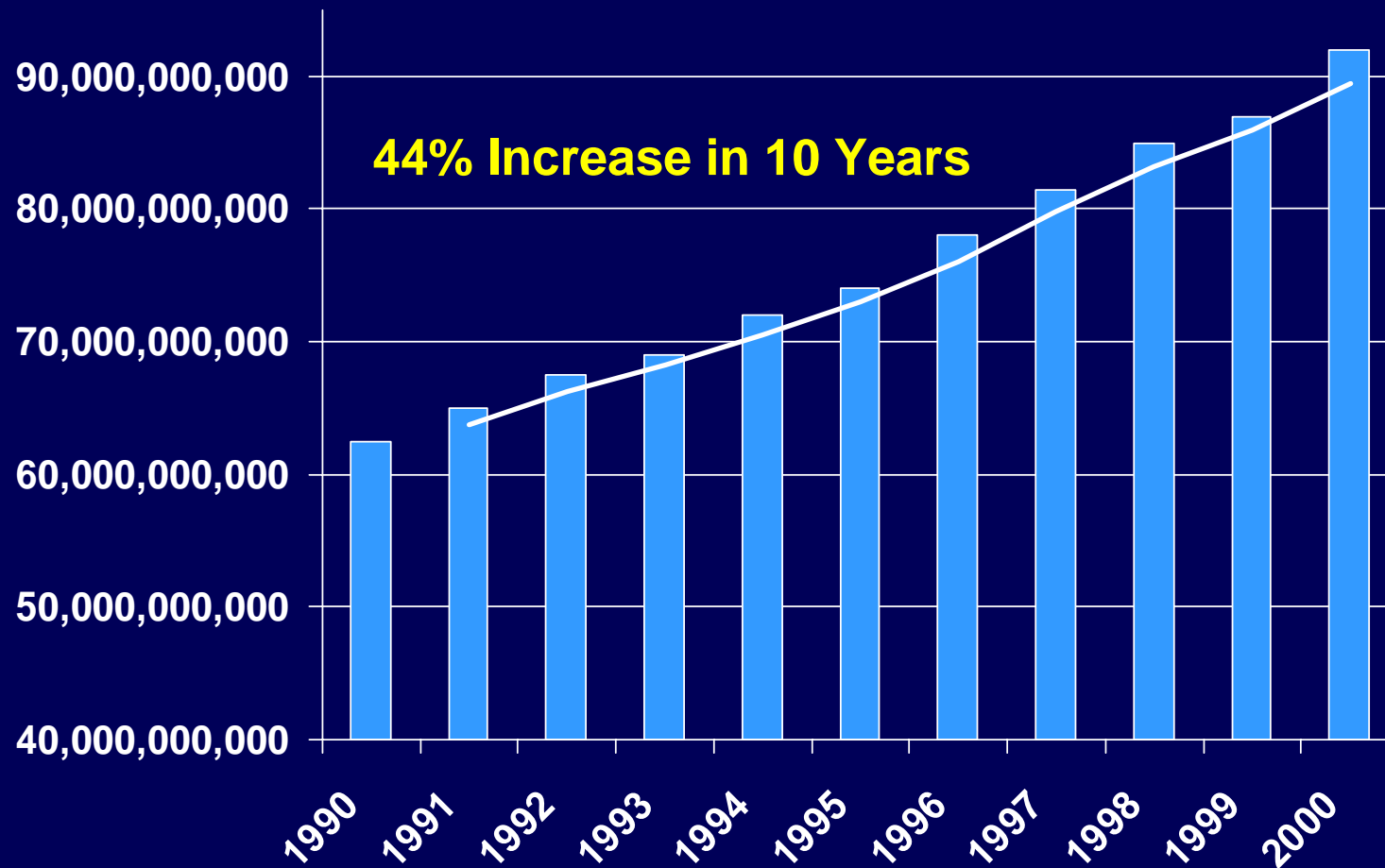
N.C. Crash Clock



N.C. Population Growth



N.C. Vehicle Miles Traveled



The Need for an Executive Committee for Highway Safety



Why Have an Executive Committee for Highway Safety

- IT IS NEEDED
- The number of crashes, injuries and fatalities on our highways continues to increase
- Vehicle miles traveled are greatly exceeding lane mile growth, facility capacity and maintenance capabilities



Why Have an Executive Committee for Highway Safety

- Highway safety for the traveling public, our highway workers, emergency responders and law enforcement personnel is a **top** priority for NCDOT
- Coordinate all highway safety efforts and initiatives to maximize potential benefits from limited resources



Coordinated Safety Approach

- We have made major strides and enhancements in the area of highway Safety within N.C.
- Impossible to prevent all traffic crashes and related fatalities and injuries
- Time to adopt and enact a comprehensive highway safety plan that identifies current highway safety issues and facilitates appropriate strategies for alleviating the identified problems



North Carolina's Executive Committee for Highway Safety



North Carolina's Executive Committee for Highway Safety

■ Mission Statement

- Establish highway safety goals and objectives and prioritize, implement and evaluate coordinated, multi-disciplinary policies and programs to reduce fatalities, injuries and economic losses related to crashes.

■ Vision Statement

- North Carolina has a multi-disciplinary, multi-agency approach to planning, design, construction, maintenance and operation of transportation systems, which results in reduced fatalities, injuries and economic losses, related to crashes. In addition, there is a coordinated effort to address emerging safety issues.



North Carolina's Executive Committee for Highway Safety

■ Strategies

- Formally adopt a Strategic Highway Safety Plan for North Carolina
- Identify organizations for participation in North Carolina's SHSP
- Define roles and functions of the participating organizations
- Develop the SHSP process including implementation and management activities
- Establish deliverables including time frames and schedules
- Optimize limited resources for the SHSP



Executive Committee for Highway Safety Potential Members

Gene Conti (Chair)

NCDOT - Chief Deputy Secretary

Len Sanderson, P.E.

NCDOT - State Highway Administrator

Debbie Barbour, P.E.

NCDOT - State Design Engineer

Don Goins, P.E.

NCDOT - Chief Engineer - Operations

Troy Peoples, P.E.

NCDOT - State Traffic Engineer

John F. Sullivan , III .

FHWA - Division Administrator

Doug Robertson, Ph.D., P.E.

UNC Highway Safety Research Center

Jim Long

Commissioner of Insurance

Calvin Leggett, P.E.

NCDOT - Manager Program Development Branch

Sherri Creech Johnson

NCDOT -- Public Information Director

David King

NCDOT - Deputy Secretary for Transit

Carol Howard

NCDOT - Division of Motor Vehicles Commissioner

Janet D'Ignazio

NCDOT - Chief Planning & Environmental Officer

Kevin Lacy, P.E., CPM

NCDOT - Traffic Safety Systems Engineer

Don Nail

NCDOT - Governor's Highway Safety Program

Colonel Richard Holden

NC State Highway Patrol

J. Douglas Galyon

NCDOT - Chairman, Board of Transportation

Jim Westmoreland, P.E.

City of Greensboro -- Director of Transportation

Robert K. Andrews , Jr., CSP

NCDOT -- Director of Safety and Loss Control

Local Law Enforcement Representative

Local Transportation Official

Emergency Room or Medical Professional



Proposed Organizational Structure



North Carolina's Executive Committee for Highway Safety

Anticipated Committee Duties

■ Executive Committee for Highway Safety

- Should be comprised of representatives from top management of selected disciplines involved in highway safety who control the current and potentially available resources for utilization in safety efforts
- Responsible for the overall direction and administration of all SHSP activities
- Responsible for defining high priority issues
- Coordinate the Department's many safety efforts with an emphasis on efficiency of resources and the prioritization of programs
- Identify, prioritize, promote and support all emphasis areas in the AASHTO Plan as well as emphasis areas not included in the AASHTO Plan for the coordinated NCDOT highway safety effort to save lives and reduce injuries



Anticipated Committee Duties

■ Executive Committee for Highway Safety

- Review and approve all actions submitted by the Working Group and the Technical Work Groups and appropriate funds for implementation
- Establish statewide highway safety goals and objectives
- Review proposed highway safety legislation
- Monitor and manage the operations of North Carolina's Strategic Highway Safety Plan
- Collect, analyze, and distribute information related to highway safety
- Establish innovative highway safety programs and activities
- Create mechanisms to foster multidisciplinary flows of communication



Anticipated Committee Duties

■ Working Group

- Establish ad-hoc subcommittees to address specific issues
- Analyze information developed by the subcommittees
- Responsible for all other aspects as related to the overall structure, direction and implementation of North Carolina's SHSP under the direction of the Executive Committee
- Develop a consensus on the NC SHSP and initialize the development and enactment of a memorandum of understanding between the various agencies
- Monitor the progress of the Technical Work Groups
- Evaluate and prioritize arising issues and concerns for submission to the Executive Committee
- Identify appropriate personnel from each agency or group to establish the baseline representation of each Technical Work Group.



Anticipated Committee Duties

■ Technical Work Groups

- Technical work group should consist of representatives from state, federal and local agencies as well as selected interest groups
- Most of the actual work, in terms of the NC SHSP will be conducted within technical work groups
- Each selected key emphasis areas will be assigned to a different Technical Work Group comprised of individuals with the appropriate expertise for the selected emphasis area
- Participants within these work groups will be defining safety issues and proposing solutions to these issues for the key emphasis areas that have been assigned to them. This will include developing strategies and programs to address the pertinent issues within the assigned emphasis area
- The issues and proposed solutions will be submitted to the Working Group for review and approval prior to being sent to the Executive Committee for final approval and implementation



North Carolina's Executive Committee for Highway Safety

Milestones

- Kick-off Meeting Held April 24, 2003
 - Adopted AASHTO Strategic Highway Safety Plan as North Carolina Safety Plan with option to amend.
- Next Meeting in August, 2003
 - Prioritize Emphasis Areas
 - Select Local Law Enforcement, additional Municipality and Emergency Medical Representatives.
 - Determine need for media representative
- Form Work Groups to Address Top Emphasis Areas



North Carolina Strategic Highway Safety Plan



AASHTO Strategic Highway Safety Plan



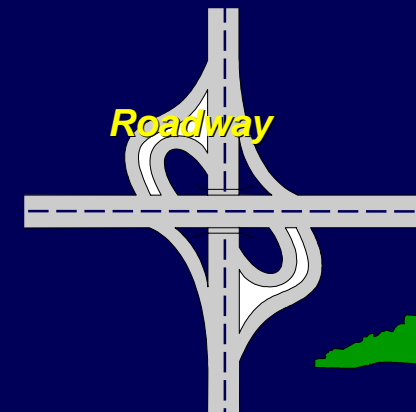
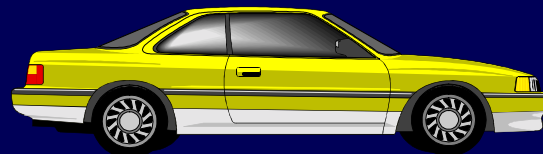
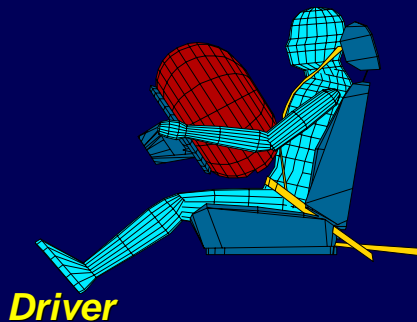
A Comprehensive Plan to
Substantially Reduce
Vehicle-Related Fatalities and
Injuries on the Nation's Highways



AASHTO

Strategic Highway Safety Plan

- In 1997 the AASHTO Standing Committee for Highway Traffic Safety along with the FHWA and NHTSA assembled a group of experts in *driver*, *vehicle* and *highway* issues
 - Purpose of group was to develop a strategic plan that would positively impact the nation's present and predicted statistics on vehicle related deaths and injuries
 - The end result was the *AASHTO Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP)*



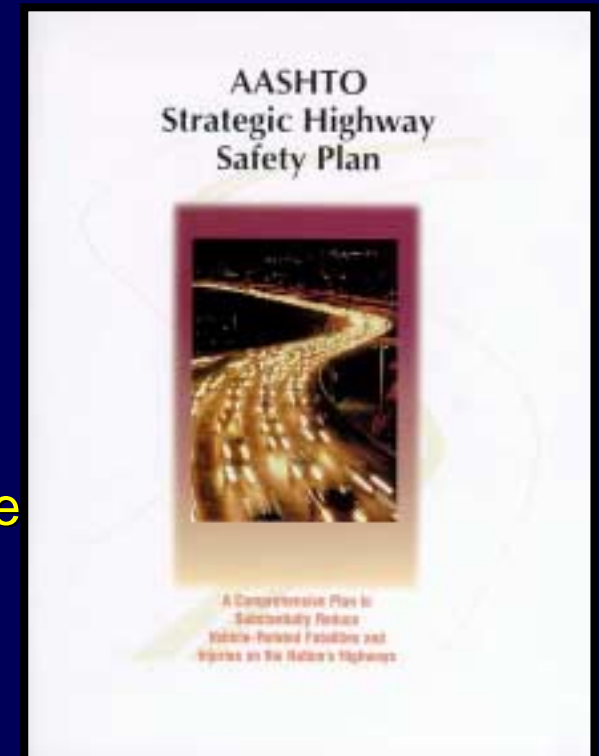
AASHTO Strategic Highway Safety Plan

■ Plan focuses on 22 key emphasis areas

– Emphasis areas divided into six major categories

- Drivers
- Special Users
- Vehicles
- Highways
- Emergency Medical Services
- Management

– Contains strategies designed to improve each area's major problem areas or to advance practices by means that are both cost-effective and acceptable to a significant majority of Americans



AASHTO/NC Strategic Highway Safety Plan

- Adoption of the AASHTO SHSP
 - With a few exceptions, all of the key emphasis areas of the AASHTO plan are directly applicable to NC's composite crash picture
 - Additional emphasis areas may be included as needed to address specific issues not covered in the AASHTO plan
 - Since the AASHTO plan and NC's data mesh so closely, the Executive Committee for Highway Safety adopted the AASHTO plan with the option to make modifications as needed



AASHTO/NC

Strategic Highway Safety Plan

Key Emphasis Areas

Part 1: Drivers

1. Instituting Graduated Licensing for Young Drivers
2. Ensuring Drivers are Licensed and Fully Competent
3. Sustaining Proficiency in Older Drivers
4. Curbing Aggressive Driving
5. Reducing Impaired Driving
6. Keeping Drivers Alert
7. Increasing Driver Safety Awareness
8. Increasing Seat Belt Usage and Improving Airbag Effectiveness

Part 2: Special Users

9. Making Walking and Street Crossing Easier
10. Ensuring Safer Bicycle Travel



AASHTO/NC

Strategic Highway Safety Plan

Key Emphasis Areas

Part 3: Vehicles

- 11. Improving Motorcycle Safety and Increasing Motorcycle Awareness
- 12. Making Truck Travel Safer
- 13. Increasing Safety Enhancements in Vehicles

Part 4: Highways

- 14. Reducing Vehicle-Train Crashes
- 15. Keeping Vehicles on the Roadway
- 16. Minimizing the Consequences of Leaving the Road
- 17. Improving the Design and Operation of Highway Intersections
- 18. Reducing Head-On and Across Median Crashes
- 19. Designing Safer Work Zones



AASHTO/NC

Strategic Highway Safety Plan

Key Emphasis Areas

Part 5: Emergency Medical Services

- 20. Enhancing Emergency Medical Capabilities to Increase Survivability

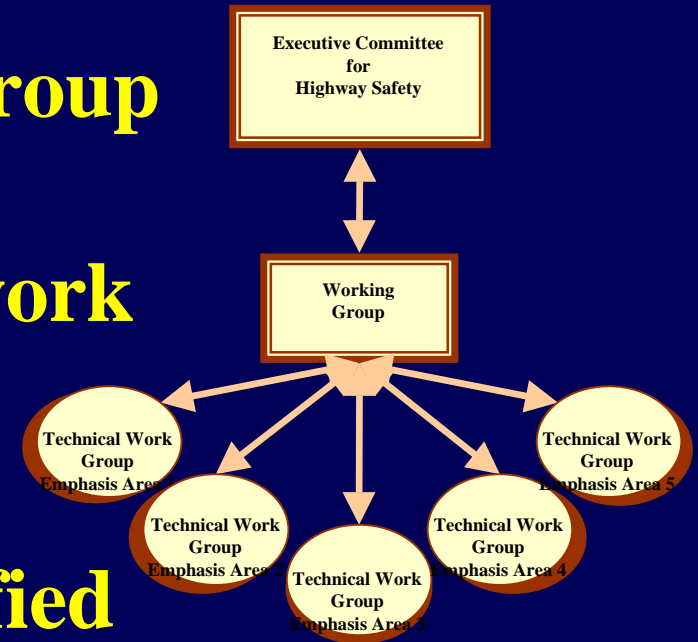
Part 6: Management

- 21. Improving Information and Decision Support Systems
- 22. Creating More Effective Processes and Safety Management Systems



What is Your Role?

- Serve on a technical work group
- Provide input to technical work groups
- Implement strategies identified
- Provide feedback on effectiveness of strategies implemented



Questions?

